

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph on page 28, lines 24-28, with the following amended paragraph:

Among the sera donated by students at University of Tokushima School of Medicine, samples from individuals having a family history of diabetes or having chyle were eliminated, and 70 samples were measured as samples of healthy individuals. From the distribution of the measurements, the tentative cutoff value was set at average value plus 3 SD according to the non-parametric method (Fig. 7). As a result, the cutoff value was determined as 13.3 $\mu$ g/mL ng/mL.

Please replace the paragraph on page 28, lines 29-32, with the following amended paragraph:

Next, at the University of Tokushima School of Medicine, 168 samples donated by diabetes patients with informed consent were measured (Fig. 8). As a result, the concentrations of insulin receptor  $\alpha$ -subunit in the sera of diabetes patients were on average 10.7 $\mu$ g/mL ng/mL, the maximum value was 23.3 $\mu$ g/mL ng/mL, and a clear difference from healthy individuals was observed.